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Undergraduate Summer Science Internship Program Offered in Woods Hole

Six science institutions offer diversity program on Cape Cod focused on Ocean and Environmental Sciences, Global Climate Change

The Partnership Education Program (PEP), a project supported by six science institutions in Woods Hole, Mass., is seeking applicants for a 10-week summer program that combines undergraduate course work with research in marine and environmental science.

Launched in 2009, PEP is designed to promote a diverse scientific community by recruiting talent from minority groups that are under-represented in marine and environmental sciences. More than 90 students from 57 colleges and universities have participated in the program since 2009. The 2015 PEP program will run May 30 through August 8.

PEP is designed for college students, with priority given to entering juniors and seniors, majoring in the natural sciences (biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics, engineering, or geosciences and earth system sciences) who have had some course work in oceanography, biology, or marine and/or environmental science. The program includes a four-week course and research internships lasting six to ten weeks. PEP students also participate in seminars, workshops, field trips, at-sea experiences, career development activities, and attend lectures at participating science institutions.

The PEP course is offered for credit through the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and is taught in Woods Hole by research scientists from local science institutions. The 2015 course, "Ocean and Environmental Sciences: Global Climate Change," runs from June 1 to June 26. PEP students will conduct research projects through August 8 that employ some of the techniques and explore some of the issues presented in the course. At the end of the summer, the students will present results from their research in a 20-minute public presentation during a one-day PEP seminar.

The 2015 program will cover tuition and room and board, as well as providing a travel allowance and a stipend. Students who apply by February 20 will have priority for admissions and financial support. The 2015 PEP Class will be announced by March 20.

Application information and reports on previous programs are available on the Woods Hole PEP website (<http://www.woodsholediversity.org/pep/>).

PEP welcomes applications from students of all backgrounds. Students from groups under-represented in marine and environmental sciences are especially encouraged to apply – this includes African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Asian Pacific Island, and Alaska Native students.

PEP is a project of the Woods Hole Diversity Initiative. Participating institutions are: NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, Marine Biological Laboratory, Sea Education Association, U. S. Geological Survey, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Woods Hole Research Center. The Woods Hole Diversity Initiative's primary academic partner is the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

For further information, contact PEP Director Dr. Ambrose Jearld, Jr. at NOAA Fisheries Service (Ambrose.Jearld@noaa.gov or 508-495-2318) or Dr. Paulinus Chigbu at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (pchigbu@umes.edu or 410-621-3034).

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Related links:

Woods Hole Partnership Education Program: <http://www.woodsholediversity.org/pep/about.html>

Woods Hole Diversity Advisory Committee: <http://www.woodsholediversity.org/>

PEP Widens World View for Woods Hole Students, Scientists and the Larger Community:
http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/press_release/pr2014/scispot/ss1409/